

has submitted a proposal to develop Elaveezha Poonchira a tourist centre in Kottayam district of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the allocation made by the Union Government for the same?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Food Processing Industry in Muvattupuzha, Kerala with FEC Financial Assistance.

3212. SHRI P. C. THOMES: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal to set up a food processing industry in Muvattupuzha taluk in the State;

(b) whether the European Economic Community has offered financial assistance for this project;

(c) whether the Government have entered into a contract with the European Economic Community in this;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when the said unit is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHARI GOMANGO): (a) The Government of Kerala's proposal for financial assistance from EEC for the Kerala Horticultural Development Programme envisages, inter alia, the setting up of one pilot

project for fruit processing products to supply fruits in the area of Muvattupuzha Sub-district in the State.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) the EEC will provide assistance in the form of grant to the extent of ECU 28.7 million for this project which will be located in the State of Kerala. The programme will be designed to give the State farmers supplementary income by increasing the production of high value horticultural crops and to develop modern processing industry for the processing of these fruits & vegetables. The programme envisages setting up of 8 pilot projects extended over 110 to 160 sites within Kerala. The programme Inter alia envisages an R&D component, extension services, marketing support, the setting up of an agro processing plant and extension of credit to farmers subject to certain conditions.

(e) The programme is expected to be implemented over a period of 6 year from the date of the Commission's approval of the first annual work programme.

Deposits of Graphite in Kerala

3213. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is large deposits of Graphite in Vadavukode and Nagapuzha areas in Muvattupuzha taluk in Kerala;

(b) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted proposals for setting up a factory; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) There are possible recoverable reserves of graphite of the order of about 472600 tonnes in Ernakulam district of Kerala. The reserves are located in 5 deposit including Vadavukode and Nagapuzha areas in Muvattupuzha taluk.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. As per the Industrial Policy Statement of 1991, no industrial licensing is required for setting up a graphite industry.

Introduction of Private Airline

3214. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA
SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN
SHRIMATI MEHENDRA KUMARI

SHRIMATI RITA VERMA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated December 29, 1991 regarding introduction of a private airline from March, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and

(c) the time by which the airline is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). M/S. Sahhara India, New Delhi have been granted 'No; Objection Certificate' on 3.10.1991 for issuance of Air Taxi Operators' Permit valid for one year. The party has been asked to complete the various formalities like import of aircraft etc.

for grant of Air Taxi Operators' Permit. The operator has proposed to import two YAK-42 aircraft on wet lease from Russia. The exact date by which the airline is likely to start operations is not known.

Appointment of dependents of deceased E. D. Employees

3215. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to avoid delay in the matter of appointment of dependents of the deceased Extra Departmental employees on compassionate grounds; and

(b) the number of such cases pending in Himachal Pradesh and in the country as a whole as on 31st December 1991?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYANAIDU): (a) Compassionate appointment cases are processed by and large on a priority basis. Instructions have also been issued to the field units for expeditious handling of such cases. With a view to monitoring progress in the matter half yearly statements have been prescribed.

(b) The requisite information is being collected from the field units and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

Fax Facility in Himachal Pradesh

3216. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received request for providing FAX facility in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof with location; and